

TAKING STOCK



Outward Bound at Aberdovey

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SCHOOL LIFE

Headmaster's message

The new academic year has begun at a suitably brisk pace: lessons, co-curricular activities and community events are all in full swing. I have been delighted by how quickly our new First Year pupils have settled into the school and by how many learning opportunities they have found time to embrace.

Curiosity is one of the five character traits that we encourage in our pupils. Asking great questions, noticing patterns and anomalies and being interested in new ideas and activities are essential for learning and making the most of our talents not just at school but in life. It was wonderful to see our First Year pupils excited and curious about pursuing co-curricular opportunities at our Activities Fair and to see older pupils enthusing about different activities as they explained the appeal of each club. Each academic department offers extra, voluntary challenges to the pupils: essay competitions, national awards and Olympiads. These stimulate curiosity, stretch academic abilities and allow our pupils to measure themselves against the best students in the country. Trips are also a way of offering pupils new experiences and fresh inspiration. Whilst we made full use of virtual tours during the covid era it is fantastic to once again be able to take pupils interested in Politics to Westminster or to see the musicians performing in venues outside of Stockport.

I hope that you enjoy reading about the exploits and successes of our pupils who are curious enough to pursue such a huge range of interests.

Dr Paul Owen
Headmaster



Results Day

Congratulations to our A Level and GCSE students on their amazing academic achievements.

At A Level, 79% of the grades were awarded at A* to B and 57% were at A* to A. At GCSE, 77% of the grades were awarded at 9, 8 and 7 and 31% were awarded the highest mark of 9.

Headmaster Dr Paul Owen said: "Our students have worked extremely hard, adapting to remote learning and dealing with considerable pressures and disruption from covid with incredible resilience. I have been hugely impressed by the academic ambition and determination they have shown throughout their time at SGS. Their commitment and the dedication of their teachers has enabled them to achieve the highest academic standards and to develop their wider talents to the full. I am simply delighted by this excellent set of results.

"I wish them every success as they look forward to starting their courses at prestigious universities across the country and look forward to welcoming the large majority of our GCSE students into the Sixth Form."

Among the students celebrating their grades, Head Girl Jessica Horsford and Isobel Gardner will both be heading to Cambridge University to study Medicine.

Jessica gained 4 A*s, while Isobel secured 3 A*s and an A and they will be joined at Cambridge by Lauren Hedley whose 2 A*s and 2 As see her take up her place to study Economics.

Lauren said she really enjoyed **"the whole community feel at SGS and the relations between students and teachers – they are always there to help."**

Nicholas Othen and Yicheng Xia were both looking forward to studying Maths at Oxford University after each achieving 4 A*s. Zoe Shah is also going to Oxford to study English Language and Literature. Alex Patsias's 4 A*s in Chemistry, Further Maths, Mathematics and Physics will see him heading to Imperial College London to study Mechanical Engineering.

Nervousness turned to relief for Jack Hargreaves as he picked up his GCSE results of ten 9s and one 8. He praised the remote learning that the school provided during lockdown and is looking forward to studying Chemistry, Further Maths, Mathematics and Physics at A Level. At the 2021-2022 Speech Day he picked up the Fifth Year Mathematics Prize. Anna Collins-Room was delighted to receive nine 9s. She said: **"I wasn't expecting my results at all! I am happy that all my revision was worth it."**

Celebratory openings for the new Nursery and Sixth Form Centre buildings

Speech Day at Stockport Grammar School was an extra-special occasion this year with the official openings of the new Nursery and Sixth Form Centre buildings by Chairman of Governors Mr Christopher Dunn.

The new single-storey Nursery building, complete with exciting new play areas and an eco-friendly living green roof, sits within the grounds of the Junior School.

The Sixth Form students also have a new modern space to call their own, featuring a large social space with a stunning glass roof, study rooms and a café. The café, called Edmond's, is named after the School's foundation in 1487 by Sir Edmond Shaa, Lord Mayor of London and Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company.

This year's Speech Day speaker was David Saddington, a climate change communicator who began his activism journey while still at school. Before heading to The Plaza to award the prizes, David met with our Eco Schools committee. He was really impressed with all the eco-friendly measures they had helped to put in place around SGS and helped them to come up with new ideas. Head Girl Jessica Horsford and Head Boy Harry Brown received the traditional Gold medals from the Prime Warden of the Goldsmiths' Company, The Lord Mark Bridges KCVO.





First Years stage Conan Doyle

In English lessons during the Summer Term, First Years read and studied the playscript version of the 'Hound of the Baskervilles' by Arthur Conan Doyle.

As part of this topic they modernised some key scenes in the play. This involved writing a script, thinking about props and performing their pieces to the class.

Young chefs cook up a storm

Second Years Lola Ferris and Harry Chadwick donned their aprons and represented the school in the Rotary Young Chef of the Year Competition.

The District Final was held at Hope Academy and nine finalists battled it out in a cook-off, each tasked with making three dishes in two hours.

The dishes were judged by a Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland representative and two hospitality professionals from the Marriott Hotel, Manchester Airport.



Biology Challenge

A group of budding Biologists have been awarded Gold for their excellent work during a Biology challenge.

Fifth Years Anjali Abraham, Edward Griffiths, Evie Poor, Josh Sparrow, Malaek Djebali, Matthew Scott and Thomas Wright took part in the challenge which was run by the UK Biology Competitions' group of the Institute of Biology.

The challenge consisted of two, 25 minute multiple choice papers taken online under staff supervised exam conditions.

Pupils who were awarded the Gold medal were in the top 5% of the country.



Queen's College Translation

Well done to Third Years Jessica Hamer-Owens (German – Area Winner) and Elena Patsias (French – Area Winner) and Fifth Year Magda Zelazny (French – Commendation) on picking up certificates at Queen's College Translation Exchange's Anthea Bell Prize For Young Translators competition (The Queen's College, Oxford University).

Enterprise day

Second Years enjoyed an Enterprise Day where they were tasked with designing, promoting and presenting a new theme park ride for Thorpe Park. The pupils worked collaboratively in small teams and learnt the value of teamwork, developed communication through presentations and enhanced their entrepreneurial skills by creating a product specific to their chosen target market.



Physics pupils pleased with planetarium

A recent school day was 'out of this world' as pupils boosted their knowledge of Physics with a planetarium visit.

First Year and Lower Sixth astrophysicists learnt more about mapping the sky, the Moon landings and the evolution of stars as they entered the planetarium in the Sports Hall.

Lower School pupils also took part in a Science Fair where they worked in groups to design their own projects on any science related topic. Well done to Third Years Edie Hatton and Eve Lorigan who won with their project about fabricated induced illnesses.



Spanish pronunciation put to the test

Fourth Year Spanish students put their language skills to the test during a pronunciation competition in which they were tasked with reciting a Spanish song and were marked on their pronunciation, intonation and fluency.

After a close round, Jamie Rogers came third, Annabel Huxley came second and Cara Bell was announced as the winner.



Robert aces spelling bee

Second Year Robert Lord did the school proud as he represented SGS in the final of a national French Spelling Bee competition held at the University of Cambridge.

He performed brilliantly, translating and spelling over 20 words in one minute, all in front of a large audience.



French poetry

Congratulations to Fourth Year pupils Cara Bell and Annabel Huxley who are amongst the winners in a national French poetry competition run by the University of Oxford.

The task was to write a poem in another language inspired from a passage in the novel 'Jane Eyre'.

Key Stage Three entrants had to respond to the passage 'Locked In The Red Room' and creatively translate the events and mood of the passage.

SGS are looking forward to the official publication of the poems, which will appear alongside the poems of the winners from all levels and languages.

Crime Week

Second Year pupils played detective in a bid to solve a suspicious murder during Crime Week in the Library.

The crime was discovered over the Easter holidays and the Library staff needed help from sleuthing students to help uncover the truth.

In order to find out 'whodunnit', pupils had to work together to find clues hidden around the Library. They discovered new books to read in the process.

ARTS

Music Festival

In June, the amazingly talented musicians at SGS took part in the 2022 Music Festival. The day was packed full of instrumental and vocal solos and ensembles.

The festival featured different classes for pupils of all ages and a wide variety of musical styles, and it was enthusiastically supported by parents, pupils and staff. The day contained over 75 performances, all of which reflected the great efforts of pupils in hours of thorough rehearsal and preparation.



Art Exhibition

Families and friends enjoyed an artistic evening viewing the work created by our A Level and GCSE students. Among the range of media and techniques employed in addition to painting and sculpture, were drypoint and lino prints, collagraphs, silk painting, ceramics, 3D relief, monotypes and photography. The students also received a brochure cataloguing their work as a memento to treasure in the years to come.



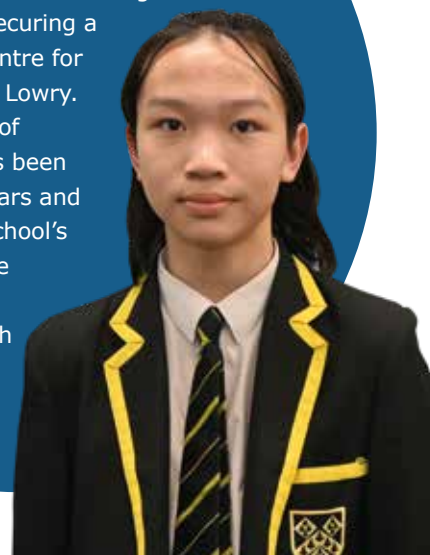
SGS Director of Music Mr Michael Dow said:

"It was a fantastic event and it was great to be able to host it again after the disruption of the pandemic."

"The pupils sang and played magnificently throughout the entire day and the standard was phenomenally high. We were incredibly proud of them all. Our thanks go to all pupils involved for their hard work in preparation and to Mr Aidan Bradley, Director of Music at Manchester High School for Girls, for his excellent adjudication and encouraging feedback for all of the performers."

Nathan takes to the stage

Fifth Year Nathan Liu is celebrating after auditioning and securing a place at the National Centre for Advanced Training at the Lowry. Nathan, who is a big fan of contemporary dance, has been dancing for about six years and has taken part in the school's dance shows where he enjoyed the chance to collaborate with other pupils.



RNCM visit

Staff and undergraduates from the Royal Northern College of Music visited the Music department to speak to students about Music Conservatoire pathways in Higher Education.

The visitors spoke about courses at the RNCM, and offered guidance on application processes and future career opportunities inside and outside music.

The undergraduates, who are first-study clarinet and singing students, also gave amazing performances to the attendees.



Musicians wow in capital

Talented musicians headed to London to take part in a series of concerts across the capital.

Concert Band, Jazz Band, Wind Orchestra and Junior Chamber Choir kicked off the concerts with performances at St James' Church, Piccadilly.

Some of the pieces performed were 'Blue Suede Shoes' (Perkins arr. Sebeky), 'Anything Goes' by Porter and a medley from the 'Phantom of the Opera' by Andrew Lloyd-Webber.

The musicians wowed audiences on the bandstand at Alexandra Gardens with performances by Concert Band, Jazz Band, Wind Orchestra and Big Band.

They enjoyed a tour of the National Theatre before their final performance at St Paul's Church in Covent Garden.

A spot of sightseeing was also enjoyed with a boat cruise down the River Thames, a ride on the London Eye and a tour of the Royal College of Music.

Upper Sixth student Lily Amet commented: **"Being able to perform to a different community, alongside just having fun and enjoying ourselves, was really memorable. A highlight for me was the tour around the National Theatre as it helped give me an insight into how hard people work behind the stage and the effort that goes into making an amazing show."**

CO-CURRICULAR



Geographers head to Manchester

Lower Sixth geographers ventured to Manchester and Llandudno to practise collecting data for their non-examined assessment.

The students travelled to Beswick and the Etihad Campus, looking at sports-led regeneration, social housing and inequality as well as factors shaping place identity and the effects of deindustrialisation and regeneration in Ancoats, New Islington and the Northern Quarter.

The students used a range of techniques including clone-town surveying, environmental impacts assessments, environmental quality surveys and questionnaires to gather data.

On the North Wales coast, Mr Cooke, Mrs Crowley and Mrs Fitzgerald led the Geography students as they implemented a variety of field methods to practise collecting data in a Physical Geography context.

Studies were located at Westshore Beach and the sand dune system on the Irish Sea, using a range of field methods to collect data to help them analyse wave, beach and cliff processes, sediment cell geology, dune and vegetation succession, and coastal management.



Zoo trip interests Psychology students

Forty Lower Sixth Psychology students visited Chester Zoo to consider animal behaviour.

The group explored the zoo and saw the animals before having a guided tour focusing on the topics of attachment and relationships in apes and what this tells us about human behaviour too.

It was a hot and sunny day that was informative and enjoyed by all.



Poet recites verses

The English department were delighted to welcome Welsh poet Owen Sheers to SGS as he gave a moving talk and poetry reading to students from the Lower Sixth from his 2005 collection 'Skirrid Hill'.

The Sixth Formers study the collection for their A-level examination and they enjoyed the opportunity to ask questions, which led to deeper insights into the writing process, as well as the meanings of the poems.

During the visit, Owen explored the themes of love, loss, heartbreak and masculinity in the 21st Century.



CO-CURRICULAR

Westminster welcomes Lower Sixth

A group of Lower Sixth students headed to London to visit the Houses of Parliament and the Supreme Court.

The first part of the trip was a guided tour of the House of Commons and House of Lords, led by a member of the Parliament Education Centre's team.

The group were led through the Robing Room and the Division Lobbies into the two chambers themselves, each getting the opportunity to stand at the dispatch box and imagine themselves being in the shoes of the Prime Minister.

The group also spent time in Central Lobby before heading into Westminster Hall. For the historians, this allowed the opportunity to visualise the trial of Charles I in 1648 from where he was sat!

The afternoon session was spent in the Supreme Court, where the pupils were able to visit the two court rooms and learn about the distinct and important functions of the highest court in the UK.

The day provided an informative and exciting opportunity for the students to place themselves at the heart of our political system and will have provided much inspiration and encouragement as they look ahead to their next steps beyond SGS.

Spotlight On...

Upper Sixth student Talia Zelhof delivered a thought-provoking 'Spotlight On...' as she explored the question 'Can we consent to actual bodily harm or murder?'

During her presentation, she looked at a number of cases that included issues such as cannibalism and euthanasia and, at the end, she fielded some questions from an intrigued audience.



Outward bound at Aberdovey

During the last week of the academic year, 120 Second Year pupils travelled to mid-Wales to take part in an Adventure Challenge and Leadership course at Outward Bound Aberdovey.

The week started with a jog and a dip in the sea to set things up for the days ahead. The girls and boys embraced the cold water and were excited at the prospect of what was to come.

The week was based around a challenging overnight expedition. On the days not spent on expedition, pupils took part in other activities, including canoeing – all with the focus of developing their understanding of their team and their role within it.

Young Enterprise win award

Eco-Living, SGS's Young Enterprise team for this academic year, were delighted to receive the award for sustainability in the North West Company of the Year Programme Final.

It was an excellent achievement as the pupils' eco-friendly toiletry business was recognised as being one of the competition's best businesses in the North West of England.



SPORTS

Fallows Shield Winners

1st	Warren	294
2nd	Nicholson	262.5
3rd	Vernon	240.5
4th	Arden	238

After a packed year of athletics and sport, there was much anticipation around the announcement of the 2021-2022 winners of the Fallows Shield... Warren!

Well done to everyone who took part in one of the many sporting events throughout the school year.

To keep up to date with the latest fixtures and results visit:
www.sport.stockportgrammar.co.uk

Sports Day

Towards the end of the Summer Term, Senior and Junior School pupils took part in track and field events to earn points for their Houses during their Sports Days.

Second Year pupils were the first year group to head outside and compete.

Special mentions go to Molly Mills who broke the Second Year records for javelin (28.12 metres) and 300m (44.44 seconds) and Chris Parikh who clocked a record time of 41.77 seconds in the 300m.

The Fourth Year Sports Day competition saw Nicholson take maximum points.

There was extra cause for celebration as Arden broke the Fourth Year record for the Boys' 4 x 100 metres. The record of 48.90 seconds, which had stood since 1988, was usurped by the new record of 48.81.

Lower Sixth students were the penultimate year group to compete.

The day was made even more memorable as three new records were created. In the Boys' Shot, Isaac Deans's 13.50 metres effort beat the previous record of 12.81 that was set 45 years ago in 1977! The 1989 Boys' 1,500m record of 4:27:30 minutes was smashed by Tom Manton as he clocked an impressive 4:22:57.

In the Girls' 300m, Amy Jack beat the five-year-old record of 51.30 seconds as she crossed the line in a time of 50:27.

First Year Sports Day was the final competition to take place and two 4 x 100m relay records from 2009 were beaten during the event. The Girls' B team smashed the previous record of 67.00 seconds with a time of 64.55, whilst the Boys' B team clocked a time of 63.60 – beating the previous best of 64.10.



SGS welcomes a new Director of Sport

As the school year began in September, SGS welcomed our new Director of Sport, Mr A Marsh.

Fresh from eight years spent in the Middle East, Mr Marsh has taught at various schools including four years spent at Jumeirah English Speaking School (JESS) Dubai – one of the leading British independent schools in the country which places a large emphasis on its sporting and academic provision.

Apart from the change in weather, Mr Marsh revealed he has received a warm welcome from everyone at SGS.

He said: **"I am enjoying my time at SGS so far. Everyone has been really welcoming towards me and I am really excited to lead the talented PE team."**

"All the pupils are well behaved, and are eager to improve within their sports lessons."

When asked about his goals for the upcoming year, Mr Marsh said that he would like to continue to grow the participation rates across the major sports, and ensure that there is a competitive culture throughout.

"We are here to not only take part but also to win," he added. **"We definitely have the talent and I am looking forward to working with all involved to ensure we get the very best from each and every one of them."**

First Years shine at Sports Tasters

Ahead of the new academic year starting, 109 First Year children attended Sport Taster sessions in netball, hockey and rugby.

SGS's new Director of Sport Mr A Marsh said:

"It was great to see so many new faces at the sessions as many pupils started their exciting sporting journey with us. I was extremely impressed by all those who attended as the effort, attitude and skill on show was nothing short of excellent. We look forward to working with them all throughout the coming year as we continue to help them on their journey to becoming young sports men and women."



Maisie shoots hoops for GB

Fourth Year Maisie Keyes was selected for the GB Basketball Under 16 squad to play in the European Championships in Podgorica in Montenegro. She played in Division B and initial group games against Slovakia, Romania, Austria and Luxembourg.



JUNIOR SCHOOL



Headmaster's message

The start of the academic year, as always, has been full of excitement – new classrooms, different teachers and catching up with friends. We have also welcomed all of our new children and ensured they have made an excellent start from both a pastoral and academic perspective. This academic year we have much to look forward to with residential visits for children in Year 3 to Year 6, our first ever ski trip in the Spring Term to Italy and all our normal events and activities which make the Junior School such a fantastic learning environment.

In this edition of Taking Stock, we look back to last academic year and celebrate the Summer Term. Firstly, the amazing Goldilocks performance which our Year 6 children performed to parents, family and friends in the Main Hall. The children demonstrated great confidence leaving the audience hooked from the start! Our Charity Afternoon was organised and led by the children. The teamwork, resilience and enthusiasm demonstrated ensured a great afternoon which was enjoyed by all Junior School pupils whilst also raising funds for two extremely important charities. Teamwork was shown to the maximum during our sports days. A special well done to all the Infant children (and spectators) who braved torrential rain at one point in the afternoon! We ended the term with Prize Giving, Ian Bland, performance poet, was our guest speaker and added great energy to the event as we celebrated the journey of all our Year 6 children.

I hope that you enjoy catching up on Junior School life and learning.

Mr Matthew Copping
Headmaster

Water lessons

Pupils in Reception and Nursery enjoyed fascinating water-themed lessons during the Summer Term.

In Reception, the boys and girls talked about sharing, and gave examples of times when they have shared something, after reading the story 'The Rainbow Fish' by Marcus Pfister.

They then made clay rainbow fish, using a rolling pin to level out the clay, before cutting out their fish shape using a clay knife.

In the Nursery, the pupils have been making the most of the wonderful summer weather.

The pupils then threw themselves into a boat building challenge where they demonstrated great problem-solving skills trying to make a boat that floated and didn't get soggy. Some even had a sail!



Eco expert comes to visit

Children in Years 1 to 4 were treated to a visit from Sarah Roberts (This is Creature), an eco-expert who has worked in conservation all around the world and now visits schools with her picture books to promote environmental awareness.

The girls and boys enjoyed a reading of her books and learnt animal facts linked to adaptations and food chains.

The children engaged with the stories Sarah told about her travels around the world and had the opportunity to share their knowledge and ask questions, thinking carefully about their own use of plastic and the things we can do to reduce single use plastics.



JUNIOR SCHOOL

Jury decide Goldilocks' fate...

Year 6 pupils delivered two wonderful performances of Roald Dahl's 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' to a packed-out Main Hall.

The musical shows saw the sweet and innocent looking Goldilocks on trial for her suspected crimes. Is she really the brazen crook who stole the porridge from under the snouts of the self-respecting, harmless Bears? It was up to the jury to decide!

The performances marked the culmination of six months of hard work by the pupils as their time at Stockport Grammar Junior School drew to a close.

Junior School Head of Music Miss Anastasia Micklethwaite said: "The children really enjoyed learning the songs for this fun setting of the Goldilocks story. They have been an absolute pleasure to work with and we are very proud of them all.

"We have a super team of staff at SGJS who have worked behind the scenes to make the production a success. Mr King-Sayce's clever and witty additional scene for the Defence, Mrs Downing's wonderful dance choreography and the support from the Year 6 team deserve a special mention."



Year 4 learn about Habitats

As part of their Science work on 'Living Things And Their Habitats', children in Year 4 have been closely observing ants in their own ant world.

They have been fascinated by the tunnels they have created and have watched as the worker ants care for and protect the growing larvae.



World Rainforest Day

To celebrate World Rainforest Day, Year 4 children took part in a webinar where they learnt about the importance of rainforests and what we can do to look after and protect them.

They listened to a Professor of Zoology who shared his experiences of being in the rainforest and showed them pictures of some of the animals he has encountered.



Year 3 investigate wind power

Year 3 have been investigating the power of wind to make things move.

They tested windmills made from shiny plastic, which moved fast when the wind blew. They then designed their own from paper and card. Once they had been tested, they thought about ways that their designs could be improved.

Charity afternoon

Children in the Junior School had lots of fun in the sun, and raised a staggering £1,939, at a recent charity afternoon.

The day was organised to raise funds for the Ukrainian Centre and East Cheshire Hospice and pupils created games stalls and organised prizes to be won. Some of the stalls included 'hook a duck', 'welly wanging' and a stall about the Ukrainian relief effort.

Staff also got involved during the sponge throwing contest. Mr Copping made a special appearance and got drenched thanks to some great throws from our Nursery class!

It was just what was needed on a hot and sunny day. Thanks to everyone who donated and got involved.



Great day at Ribby Hall Village

Excited Year 2 children had an amazing day as they went on their trip to Wild Discovery at Ribby Hall Village.

The morning was spent doing lots of interactive activities to do with their habitats work in Science – this included petting some of the beautiful animals.

During lunch, they had the pleasure of watching a binturong lazing high above in a tree as they sat at picnic tables and, in the afternoon, the pupils were treated to their own private bird show.

Nature walks

Pupils in Years 1 and 2 have been discovering the wonders of nature in recent lessons.

Year 1 explored the local area as they went on a nature walk around Davenport. They identified and named a variety of trees and leaves and made a tally chart to find out which leaves were the most and least common in the area.

Meanwhile, behind the new Nursery building, the Grounds team have created a wonderful wildflower meadow for SGS pupils to enjoy.

The meadow is home to a mud kitchen and bug hotel which Year 2 pupils explored as part of their habitat topic.

Ready, set, go!

The Infant and Junior Sports Days marked the end of a busy sporting calendar for our Junior School pupils – one that has brought lots of success and opportunities.

Boys and girls from Nursery to Year 6 had the chance to run, jump and throw whilst competing against their peers for valuable House points.

Some of the events enjoyed were hurdles, relay race, and not forgetting the famous sack race.

It was fantastic to see such a great turnout from parents supporting their children – the cheering certainly added to the days, making it a special occasion for all involved.

Pupils celebrate at Prize Giving

The Junior School decamped to the Dining Hall for the final event of the academic year, the Year 3 to 6 Prize Giving.

Chairman of Governors Mr Christopher Dunn welcomed everyone to the event before Headmaster Mr Matthew Copping introduced the guest speaker, Mr Ian Bland. Mr Bland is a performance poet and he filled the room with an interactive performance that had every attendee engrossed.

The prizes, including the Year Group awards and Leavers' awards, were presented and the Head Boys and Girls from the year shared some fabulous memories of their time at the Junior School.

Further musical performances were delivered by the whole of Year 6 – who offered up a selection of pieces from their production of Roald Dahl's 'Goldilocks And The Three Bears' – and the Year 5 and 6 Choir, who sang for their second song, 'You Raise Me Up' by Rolf Løvland and Brendan Graham.

Photographs and Cyanotypes

Year 4 tried their hand at composing photographs and cyanotypes in recent creative Art lessons.

They considered the best way to compose photographs, making use of light and using self-portraits to produce a mixed media piece of work.

They then moved onto cyanotypes, a process in which treated paper reacts to the light, similar to developing photographs. It was a strange concept for the children to hear that 'back in the day' they might need to wait several weeks before they could look at the photos they had taken!



Pupils make a splash in swimming lessons

During their swimming lessons in the Summer Term, children in Years 3 to 6 took part in a mini-gala which included three events: front crawl, back stroke and a novelty event, surfing!

Pupils scored points for their Houses and the top three children in each year group were awarded a medal in an assembly. A number of the children recorded marked improvements in their times.

Sun safety a top priority

Consultant Dermatologist Dr Stephanie Ogden, a parent of a Junior School pupil, delivered an assembly about sun safety.

The assembly was part of SKCIN's Sun Safe Schools programme and was set up to provide tools, advice, guidance, resources and support to assist schools to safeguard children against UV exposure and prevent skin cancer through education.

During the talk, the boys and girls talked about the benefits of the sun and the negative effects of the sun's heat and learnt a handy rhyme about the correct clothes and accessories to put on when they are out in the sunshine.



Sports round up...

Junior School pupils performed brilliantly in AJIS athletics and cricket competitions.

The athletics competition saw pupils from 22 schools compete on a running track for individual medals - and SGS athletes managed to pick up a number of honours with real grit being shown.

The medal winners on the day included David H (ball throw), Toby L (150m/ long jump), Anabelle B (150m), Harry B (150m) and Archie B (ball throw).

In the cricket tournament, the Year 6 side performed superbly with both their batting and bowling to reach the final. The competition is made up of a number of independent schools over the north west of England and, after playing Cheadle Hulme School and Newcastle Under Lyme School, the team met Manchester Grammar School in the final. The players showed great effort and focus on a wet afternoon and they deserve full credit for their determination and attitude.